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There are many impulsive sayings to be found in the forty or fifty volumes of Ruskin, many opinions too clearly born of a moment's intellectual caprice to be deserving of more than a moment's attention, but these which we have quoted do not belong to that category. They are rather the deliberate records of a life-

long belief, time and time again solemnly reaffirmed, and fundamental to a comprehension of the whole structure of their author's thought. That the proposition which they embody has been vigorously denied is matter of common intelligence among those familiar with the currents of critical discussion during the past half-century or more. The doctrine of "art for art's sake" falls to pieces unless we reject the notion that the character of the artist is reflected in his work. That doctrine has exerted a strong influence upon criticism, and there was a time, not so many years ago, when it seemed to hold the field against its opponents. If we consider the case of literary art alone, there were two excellent reasons for the apparent ascendancy of this opinion in the forum of æsthetical controversy. The first was offered by the fact that didacticism in literature had been greatly overdone. When we think of the long and dreary annals of allegorical composition and sermonizing in verse, we naturally revolt from the assumption that this sort of activity has anything to do with literature proper, and it gives us a sense of satisfaction to take refuge in even the extreme opinion that poetry has no business to teach anything, that its message is that of pure beauty, and that, by just so much as it departs from this aim, its purpose becomes weakened, and its spiritual power impaired. The second reason which seemed to justify the principle of "art for art's sake" was offered by those over-zealous critics of literature who were constantly dragging petty personalities into their work, raising a great pother over the superficial aspects of a poet's private life, and making out of some carelessness of habit or fault of temper a structural defect in character which must always be kept in the foreground of thought when the poet's work was under consideration. It was no wonder that these two influences combined drove many sensitive intelligences to the extreme of revolt. The fact that, on the one hand, such didacticism as Young's "Night Thoughts" and Pollok's "Course of Time" could pass for poetry at all, and that, on the other, whole sections of the reading public should be warned against the poetry of Byron and Shelley because their lives did not square with the social conventions of their time — this twofold fact, we say, based upon a false perspective and a complete misunderstanding of the poetic art, was amply sufficient to account for the success of a form of teaching whose fundamental object was to restore to poetry the dignity which it seemed to be in danger of losing.

When, however, we come to take a broader view of the whole question, it must be admitted that the doctrine of "art for art's sake," the doctrine that the artist must deliberately eschew the intention of teaching, that, if he have the divine fire within him, the purity of its glow will remain undimmed whatever the life he may lead, is almost as narrow as the doctrine against which it was raised in protest. Because certain dull poets have been offensively didactic we have no right to say that poets of genius may not engage their powers in the furtherance of worthy ideals. That some great poets have had personal failings, about which their critics have been more curious than was necessary, is no reason why we should deny that, other things being equal, the blameless life will in the long run express itself in nobler forms than the life that has not escaped "the contagion of the world's slow stain." As far as the latter of these two propositions is concerned, we take a just pride in the thought that Milton and Tennyson were no less great as men than as poets, and, while giving full acceptance as poetry to the work of men whose character we may not call unblemished, it would distinctly add to our satisfaction could we know them to have lived lives in stricter consonance with their ideals. As for the former proposition, we need only point to the long line of great poets who have allied their work with the practical human causes of religious and ethical teaching, of political and social progress. From the defence of the Areopagus and the old conservative order by Æschylus to the denunciation by Hugo of the saturnalia of a bastard French imperialism, the most famous of poets have ever been ready — have found themselves irresistibly impelled — to make their work tell in the never-ending struggle between truth and error, between right and wrong, between the conservative and the destructive agencies in the life of the social organism.

How does our star-like Milton serve to illuminate the doctrine of "art for art's sake"? It is true that he turned from serene verse to stormy prose in his championship of the struggling Puritan Commonwealth, but it is also true that when he turned again to verse his thought took on a new majesty, and that the deepest feelings of puritanism are to be found rather in his epics than in his polemics. Surely, our literature has no nobler art than that of the "Paradise Lost," but was the poem written

for "art's sake" alone? Not unless we take "art's sake" and "life's sake" to be synonymous, which they probably are, if our definitions be made sufficiently liberal. In the final synthesis, beauty and truth and virtue are one and the same thing, and the "art's sake" shibboleth appears but a question-begging phrase. We cannot judge the artist without in large measure judging the man as well, for as Professor Corson says, speaking of such poets as Milton, "their personalities and their works are consubstantial." But we may easily make the mistake — and often do make it — of basing our estimate of a poet's character too much upon the trivial outward aspects of his life, and too little upon the writings in which his inmost self stands clearly revealed. If his actions and his books give each other the lie, why should we jump to the conclusion that the written expression of character must be insincere; why not take the more reasonable view that the true personality is to be sought in the books? They, at least, if read aright, offer a form of self-expression that is deliberate and clear; while a man's daily actions are impulsive and open to a hundred misinterpretations.

Again writing of Milton, Professor Corson says: "His personality is felt in his every production, poetical and prose, and felt almost as much in the earliest as in the latest period of his authorship. And there is no epithet more applicable to his own personality than the epithet august. He is therefore one of the most educating of authors, in the highest sense of the word, that is, educating in the direction of sanctified character." What is here said of Milton we believe to be equally true of Shakespeare. We all know what Wordsworth said of the sonnet, that "with this key Shakespeare unlocked his heart," how Browning replied to this dictum with an indignant, "If so, the less Shakespeare he," and how Matthew Arnold, in a vein similar to that of Browning, wrote these lines:

> "Others abide our question. Thou art free.
> We ask and ask — Thou smilest and art still,
> Out-topping knowledge."

In this conflict of opinion, it seems to us that Wordsworth has expressed the deeper truth. It is true that the closest scrutiny of Shakespeare's work will not give us the facts about his boyish poaching upon Sir Thomas Lucy's preserves, or explain the mystery of that "second-best bed" bequeathed to his wife. But the knowledge of a man's personality does not depend upon such trivialities as these. We know his qualities of heart and mind better than we know those of our closest friends. We know what he thought upon most serious subjects, and how he felt about human life in its most significant aspects. The superstition which would have us believe that, as a dramatist, he exhibited the personalities of his created characters and concealed his own beyond any possibility of surmise has been tenacious, but is at last losing its hold upon intelligent students. The little book of Mr. Frank Harris upon the man Shakespeare, and the still more recent book of Professor Goldwin Smith upon the same subject, are interesting records of the change of opinion upon this subject. Still more interesting is the closing paragraph of the important work of Shakespearian criticism which we owe to Dr. Brandes:

> "The William Shakespeare who was born at Stratford-on-Avon in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, who lived and wrote in London in her reign and that of James, who ascended into heaven in his comedies and descended into hell in his tragedies, and died at the age of fifty-two in his native town, rises a wonderful personality in grand and distinct outlines, with all the vivid coloring of life from the pages of his books, before the eyes of all who read them with an open, receptive mind, with sanity of judgment, and simple susceptibility to the power of genius."

THOREAU AS A HUMORIST.

There are many volumes purporting to set out the choicest bits of American humor, but the compilers of practically all of them have omitted an important contributor to this branch of our literature. It is a question if there exists another set of books (of wisdom, at least) so potent for smiles, even hearty laughs, as are the works of Henry D. Thoreau. It is an oversight that his mirthful sayings have never been exploited by the excerptors. Even those who have essayed to interpret him in criticism have not adequately reckoned with this phase of his genius. Stevenson, for instance, in his rather querulous appraisement of Thoreau, but mentioned the gift; and then, as it seems, only to the end of carping at the author for expunging some of its manifestations from his later works. The truth is, here is a rich vein of humor which belonged to Thoreau by right of inheritance; his mother, and the Dunbar family of which she was a member, were remarkable, according to one of the biographers, for their keen dramatic humor and intellectual sprightliness. "Direct communication with the risible muscles of the globe" amounted to a family trait.

Thoreau said of Carlyle that he lacked the repose in his inmost being necessary to make his humor thoroughly genial and placid. Repose in his inmost being one should say Thoreau did have in a prevailing degree. His humor, for the best part if not

for the most part, is blue and transparent as the surface of Walden Pond itself. And when the smoothness of the mood is less it is as a rule, like the Pond and the poet's serenity, "rippled but not ruffled."

Of course, Thoreau's is not always a perfectly good-humored humor; it is often acrid. If he make you laugh, you not rarely find that you are laughing at somebody, or at mankind. One who offends his ideals he is capable of flaying rather mercilessly, with wit for a whip. The unlucky wight who named Flint's Pond for himself comes in for a scolding whose ill-temper is hardly atoned for by its eloquence. Usually, however, Thoreau wields his weapon lightly, relying upon the dexterity in preference to the force of his thrust. He is given to impaling his (intellectual) enemies, not with the bayonet, so to speak, but upon the point of his delicate naturalist's needle. In the midst of a matter-of-fact account of his bean-raising, he turns a laugh at the expense of the grosser public when a joke is least expected. His enemies in this gardening enterprise, we are informed, were worms and woodchucks; "soon, however," he reflects dryly, "the remaining beans will be too tough for them, and go forward to meet new foes." At other times the fun is weak or quite abortive. He enjoys making a pun, and, punster like, especially a poor one; but he is so guileless about it that one easily forgives him these trespasses.

But there are many touches of sheer pleasantry with no one for butt. When he relates going to take possession of the hut he has purchased (for its boards) of the Irish workingman, he runs on whimsically:

"At six I passed him and his family on the road. One large bundle held their all, — bed, coffee-mill, looking-glass, hens, — all but the cat; she took to the woods and became a wild cat, and, as I learned afterward, trod in a trap set for woodchucks, and so became a dead cat at last."

Again, what fisherman but would confirm the philosopher's experience that he "found the increase of fair bait to be nearly as the squares of the distances"? Some of these quips and sallies are turned neatly and packed tersely enough to be likened for their keeping qualities to the staple article described in the following amusing bit:

"Who has not seen a salt fish, thoroughly cured for this world, so that nothing can spoil it, and putting the perseverance of the saints to blush? with which you may sweep or pave the streets, and split your kindlings, and the teamster shelter himself and his lading against the sun, wind, and rain behind it, — and the trader, as a Concord trader once did, hang it up by his door for a sign when he commences business, until at last his oldest customer cannot tell surely whether it be animal, vegetable, or mineral, and yet it shall be as pure as a snowflake, and if it be put into a pot and boiled, will come out an excellent dun fish for a Saturday's dinner."

The volume in which Thoreau's natural playfulness finds freest vent is perhaps "Cape Cod" — a book to be prescribed in cases of the blues, especially to nature lovers. The science, philosophy, common-sense, poetical narrative here are seasoned continually with unmistakable humor. There is page upon page of delicious banter, directed now at the author of the old Cape history Thoreau reads under his umbrella, now at the quaint coast towns and the townspeople, now at the church and its ministers. His authority has lauded Sandwich town bravely, but Thoreau demurs: "Ours was but half a Sandwich at most, and that must have fallen on the buttered side some time." He reads of the prosperity of the worthy citizens of Chatham: "In many families there is no difference between the breakfast and supper; cheese, cakes, and pies being as common at the one as at the other." To which, Thoreau: "But that leaves us still uncertain whether they were really common at either." He describes an unprepossessing Nauset woman as one who "looked as if it made her head ache to live." In 1662, Eastham, according to this history, decreed that a part of every whale cast on shore should be appropriated for the support of the ministry. "The ministers must have sat upon the cliffs in every storm, and watched the shore with anxiety." Eastham also voted that every married man be required to kill so many crows or blackbirds, since these fowls were a pest in the grain fields. "But," observes the facetious bachelor from Concord, "the blackbirds still molest the corn, . . . from which I concluded, that either many men were not married, or many blackbirds were."

In "Walden," if the book be read with an eye to this element, one may enjoy a running feast of humor of a quality seldom matched in a book primarily serious. To an idealist who has once for all cast in his lot with his idealism, the spectacle of the work-a-day world is not only life without principle, it is life without sense. The farmer, in Thoreau's view, is

"Endeavoring to solve the problem of a livelihood by a formula more complicated than the problem itself. To get his shoe-strings he speculates in herds of cattle. . . . And when the farmer has got his house he may not be the richer but the poorer for it, and it be the house that has got him. . . . I would say to my fellows, once for all, live free and uncommitted. It makes but little difference whether you are committed to a farm or the county jail."

The man of business is eager for the newspaper, taking it up with the demand,

"'Pray tell me anything new that has happened to a man anywhere on this globe,' and he reads it over his coffee and rolls, that a man has had his eyes gouged out this morning on the Washito River; never dreaming the while that he lives in the dark unfathomed Mammoth Cave of this world, and has but the rudiment of an eye himself."

Some of the sage's reflections under the topic "Economy," charged with a mother-wit and homely wisdom that cannot be gainsaid, have become familiar to everyone.

"Kings and queens who wear a suit of clothes but once cannot know the comfort of wearing a suit that fits. They are no better than wooden horses to hang the clean clothes on. . . . For most men . . . it would be easier to hobble to town with a broken leg than with a broken pantaloon. . . . We know but few men, a great many coats and breeches. Dress a scarecrow in your last shift, you standing shiftless by, who would not soonest salute the scarecrow?"

When Thoreau asked that a garment be made in

some particular way, the local tailoress disposed of his request by calmly saying, "They do not make them so now." Thoreau puzzled over this awhile, wondering who the mysterious "they" might be, and why *their* preference as to patterns should be binding on him; and presently, thinking of no better rejoinder, replied: "It is true they did not make them so recently, but they do now." This quite nonplussed the good woman, and Thoreau got his clothes as he wanted them.

As regards shelter, Thoreau's requirements may seem to smack of levity, though he protests he is far from jesting.

"Furniture!" he cries, "Thank God, I can sit and I can stand without the aid of a furniture warehouse. . . . Formerly . . . I used to see a large box by the railroad, six feet long by three wide, in which the laborers locked up their tools at night, and it suggested to me that every man who was hard pushed might get such a one for a dollar, and having bored a few auger holes in it, to admit the air at least, get into it when it rained, and at night, and hook down the lid, and so have freedom in his love, and in his soul be free."

People used sometimes to ask the poet if he were not lonely at Walden. He answers: "I am no more lonely than the loon in the pond that laughs so loud, or than Walden Pond itself. . . . I am no more lonely than a single mullein or dandelion in a pasture, or a bean leaf, or sorrel, or a house-fly, or a humble-bee." He knew the emptiness of the ordinary social existence and stated it with characteristic drollery: "We meet at meals three times a day and give each other a new taste of that old musty cheese that we are."

At the same time, to visitors at Walden, and to visits paid thence by Thoreau, are owing some of the most delightful of classic passages. The Canadian Wood-chopper long since acquired fame as a piece of character-drawing. "He was so genuine and unsophisticated that no introduction would serve to introduce him, more than if you introduced a woodchuck to a neighbor." This was the original Thoreau appreciator from the point of view herein, who reclined on a log while the two conversed, and who "sometimes tumbled down and rolled on the ground with laughter at anything which made him think and tickled him." The casual visit to Baker Farm, where Thoreau retreated upon being overtaken by a thunder storm, affords this inimitable sketch:

"[Here] dwelt now John Field, an Irishman, and his wife and several children, from the broad-faced boy who assisted his father at his work, and now came running by his side from the bog to escape the rain, to the wrinkled, sybil-like, cone-headed infant that sat upon its father's knee as in the palaces of nobles, and looked out from its home in the midst of wet and hunger inquisitively upon the stranger, with the privilege of infancy, not knowing but it was the last of a noble line and the hope and cynosure of the world, instead of John Field's poor starveling brat. . . . An honest, hard-working, but shiftless man plainly was John Field; and his wife — she too was brave to cook so many successive dinners in the recesses of that lofty stove; with round greasy face and bare breast, still thinking to improve her condition one day; with the never absent mop in one hand, and yet no effects of it visible anywhere. The chickens, which had also taken shelter here from the rain, stalked about the room like members of the family, too humanized, methought, to roast well. They stood and looked in my eye or pecked at my shoe significantly."

Of this kind of comedy Thoreau was well-nigh master. One other example (from the chapter on "Sounds") refuses to be left unquoted:

"Late in the evening I heard the distant rumbling of wagons over bridges, — a sound heard farther than almost any other at night, — the baying of dogs, and sometimes again the lowing of some disconsolate cow in a distant barn-yard. In the meanwhile all the shore rang with the trump of bull-frogs, the sturdy spirits of ancient wine-bibbers and wassailers, still unrepentant, trying to sing a catch in their Stygian lake, — if the Walden nymphs will pardon the comparison, for though there are almost no weeds, there are frogs there, — who would fain keep up the hilarious rules of their old festal tables, though their voices have waxed hoarse and solemnly grave, mocking at mirth, and the wine has lost its flavor, and become only liquor to distend their paunches, and sweet intoxication never comes to drown the memory of the past, but mere saturation and waterloggedness and distention. The most aldermanic, with his chin upon a heart-leaf, which serves for a napkin to his drooling chaps, under this northern shore quaffs a deep draught of the once scorned water, and passes round a cup with the ejaculation *tr-r-r-oonk*, *tr-r-r-oonk*, *tr-r-r-oonk!* and straightway comes over the water from some distant cove the same password repeated, where the next in seniority and girth has gulped down to his mark; and when this observance has made the circuit of the shores, then ejaculates the master of ceremonies, with satisfaction, *tr-r-r-oonk!* and each in his turn repeats the same down to the least distended, leakiest, and flabbiest paunched, that there be no mistake; and then the bowl goes round again and again, until the sun disperses the morning mist, and only the patriarch is not under the pond, but vainly bellowing *troonk* from time to time, and pausing for a reply."

Let it be hoped that some day the appreciation will be general that this is a higher kind of humor than any machine output of our professional wits or comic papers. When the understanding does come, and along with the comfits people swallow the pills of wisdom, Thoreau's cure for the world's ills will begin to take effect.

GEORGE BEARDSLEY.

COMMUNICATION.

FRANCIS DOUCE: A QUERY.

(To the Editor of THE DIAL.)

Francis Douce was the author of "Illustrations of Shakspere," which was one time regarded as a text book of high authority. When the work first appeared, critics assailed the author with great fierceness, and he, being sensitive and irritable, determined never to publish anything more. A legacy was left him by Nollekens, the sculptor, which enabled him to live without resort to his pen, and he kept his word excepting for an occasional magazine article. He died in 1834. But he left some manuscripts in iron-bound boxes, and by his will directed that they be kept in the manuscript room of the British Museum, and remain unopened until January 1, 1900. Has the literary world received any notice of the opening of the boxes? If not, perhaps this note from "a man with a memory" may serve as a "pointer" to some enterprising publisher.

A. H. N.

Somerville, Tenn., March 19, 1900.

The New Books.

An Unfinished Record of the South African War.*

"From Cape Town to Ladysmith" is the collective title of fifteen letters written by the late G. W. Steevens for a London newspaper, from the seat of the South African war. Mr. Steevens died, as the world learned to its sorrow, in January last of enteric fever at Ladysmith; and in him the type or school of journalism he wrought in lost perhaps its ablest and most representative exponent. Mr. Steevens arrived at Cape Town on October 10, and he gives his impressions of that somewhat languid community in an interesting letter which forms the first chapter of the present volume. After spending a few days at Cape Town and *en route* to the seat of impending hostilities, he reached Ladysmith about October 20; and from there ten of the fifteen letters are written. In his letter, dated October 14, from Burghersdorp, a stronghold of bitter Dutch partisanship, Mr. Steevens recounts his interview with the presiding genius of the place, a pastor who edited its Dutch paper, dictated its Dutch politics, and poured out weekly vials of wrath upon the heads of politicians whose views were more moderate than his own. Personally, he turned out to be a genial old gentleman who kept his ill-humor for the printer, and who, while taking his own side strongly in conversation, was quite willing to allow that it was proper for a Briton to be equally strong on the other. The substance of his talk may be quoted, as illustrating a phase of Dutch Afrikander opinion.

". . . I look on this war as the sequel of 1881. I have told them all these years, it is not finish; war must come. . . . The trouble is because the Boer have never had confidence in the British Government, just as you have never had confidence in us. The Boer have no feeling about Cape Colony, but they have about Natal; they were driven out of it, and they think it still their own country. Then you took the diamond-fields from the Free State. . . . Then came annexation of the Transvaal; up to that I was strong advocate of federation, but after that I was one of the founders of the Bond. After that the Afrikander trusted Rhodes — not I, though; I always write I distrust Rhodes — and so came the Jameson raid. Now how could we have confidence after all this in British Government? I do not think Transvaal Government has been wise; I have many times told them so. They made great mistake when they let people come into the mines. I told them, This gold will be their ruin; to remain independent you must remain poor. But when that was done, what could they do? If they gave the franchise, then the Republic is governed by three four men from Johannesburg, and they will govern it for their own pocket. The Transvaal Boer would rather be British colony than Johannesburg Republic. Well, well: it is the law of South Africa that the Boer drive the native north and the English drive the Boer north. But now the Boer can go north no more; two things stop him: the tsetse fly and the fever. So if he must perish, it is his duty, —yes, I, minister, say it is his duty— to perish fighting."

Mr. Steevens gives a vivid account of the Elandslaagte fight —"battle," he calls it — in which testimony is borne to the humanity of the victors:

"And mark — and remember for the rest of your lives — that Tommy Atkins made no distinction between the wounded enemy and his dearest friend. To the men who in the afternoon were lying down behind rocks with rifles pointed to kill him, who had shot, may be, the comrade of his heart, he gave the last drop of his water, the last drop of his melting strength, the last drop of comfort he could wring out of his seared, gallant soul. . . . A few men had made a fire in the gnawing damp and cold, and round it they sat, the unwounded Boer prisoners. For themselves they took the outer ring, and not a word did any man say that could mortify the wound of defeat. In the afternoon Tommy was a hero, in the evening he was a gentleman."

When the Boers' turn came, at Nicholson's Nek, they, too, showed that when the duty of slaughter was done, and the fighting devil in them was laid, they could return to the ways of humanity, and do those acts which go to save the battlefield from being a scene of diabolism pure and simple:

"As Atkins had tended their wounded there and succoured their prisoners, so they tended and succoured him here. . . . They gave the whole men the water out of their own bottles; they gave the wounded the blankets off their own saddles and slept themselves on the naked veldt. They were short of transport and they were mostly armed with Martinis; yet they gave captured mules for the hospital panniers and captured Lee-Metfords for splints. Some of them asked soldiers for their embroidered waist-belts as mementoes of the day. 'It 's got my money in it,' replied Tommy — a little surly, small wonder — and the captor said no more. Then they set to singing doleful hymns of praise under trees. Apparently they were not specially elated."

Everybody who has read of the siege of Ladysmith has read of "Long Tom," a leading performer in that dreary drama, but not a very destructive or formidable one, if we may believe Mr. Steevens.

". . . He is a friendly old gun, and for my part I have none but the kindest feelings towards him. It was his duty to shell us, and he did; but he did it in an open, manly way. Behind the half-county of light red earth they had piled up round him you could see his ugly phiz thrust up and look hungrily round. A jet of flame and a spreading toadstool of thick white smoke told us he had fired. On the flash, four-point-seven

*From Cape Town to Ladysmith. By George W. Steevens. Edited by Vernon Blackburn. With portrait. New York: Dodd, Mead & Co.

banged his punctilious reply. You waited until you saw the black smoke jump behind the red mound, then Tom was due in a second or two. A red flash — a jump of red-brown dust and smoke — a rending-crash: he had arrived. Then sank slowly through the air his fragments, like wounded birds. You could hear them coming, and they came with dignified slowness: there was plenty of time to get out of the way. Until the capture of Long Tom — when he will be treated with the utmost consideration — I am not able to tell you exactly what brand of gun he may be. It is evident from his conservative use of black powder, and the old-gentlemanly staidness of his movements, that he is an elderly gun. . . . Anyhow, he conducted his enforced task with all possible humanity."

Steevens's recital breaks off with pathetic abruptness. There is not much of it — only 156 well-leaded pages; and these are supplemented by a memorial chapter from the hand of the editor, Mr. Vernon Blackburn. The cable that flashed the news of Steevens's death to England states that a few days before the end came he had so far recovered as to be able to do some journalistic work. Relapse followed, and he died at five in the afternoon. The cabled account of the funeral paints a mournful little picture quite in Steevens's own manner:

"Funeral same night, leaving Carter's house at eleven thirty. Interred at Ladysmith cemetery at midnight. Night dismal, rain falling, while the moon attempted to pierce the black clouds. Boer searchlight from Umbalaa flashed over the funeral party, showing the way in the darkness."

"Long Tom," we may fancy, boomed a requiem over the grave.

Steevens was an exceptionally gifted painter of swiftly executed word-pictures in the impressionist style; and descriptive journalism was therefore his true field. Afterthought, elaboration, retouching, must in some degree have taken the life and freshness out of his work. It has been regretted that he chose for his province journalism instead of literature (somebody, of course, must always have his fling at journalism); but we think Stevens knew best what he was good for, and that he chose wisely. As journalist he served the world well, and blazed a new path for others; and then how much literature there was in his journalism! Proud spirits among us, condemned to a brief sojourn on a planet not specially swept and garnished for them, groan daily over the vices of the press, as if the press had nothing but vices. The press, like other human contrivances, might be a good deal better than it is; and it certainly does not reflect the tastes and cravings of an ideal humanity. But it is fair to say that it makes on the whole powerfully for good in the world. It holds out, too, a generous reward to ability of the kind it needs. It turned the stream of Pactolus, or a saving rivulet therefrom, at least, into starving Grub Street. It gave Steevens his chance — gave him early fame, and set him on the way to fortune.

Steevens's style is well described as "cinematographic." We think he tried to attain in his writing precisely the effect called to mind by that expression. His descriptions, the characteristic ones, affect us like a series of "cinematographic" pictures running swiftly before the mind's eye. There are occasional lapses of taste, expressions too hurriedly minted; and we tire at last of a series of such phrases as: "The trains drew up and vomited khaki into the meadow"; "the pipes shrieked of blood and the lust of glorious death"; "the bubble of distant musketry," and its "scrunching roar," (one is reminded of Mr. Stephen Crane's famous "crimson roar"). But there is no denying the extraordinary vividness of Mr. Steevens's writing, his power of making us see what he wanted us to see. His death must be accounted one of the more deplorable results of the iniquitous business now going on in South Africa, for his life was a really productive one, of much promise for the future. To his personal attractiveness and worth Mr. Blackburn pays feeling tribute. This little book contains his last work; and it will be prized the more for the excellent portrait that forms the frontispiece.

E. G. J.

An American Naturalist.*

President Gilman has very fittingly outlined his recent life of Dana in the sub-title, "Scientific Explorer, Mineralogist, Geologist, Zoölogist, Professor in Yale University." That a man should achieve eminence in any one of these lines ordinarily would be counted enough, but the present biographer had the pleasant task of giving us an insight into the life of a man of marked achievements in all, — the last of the famous group of men who in the closing years of the eighteenth and early years of the nineteenth centuries have done so much for scientific work and thought and for whom there is no better title than the good old word, naturalist. In a very peculiar way Professor Dana links the period of the naturalist and that of the specialist. While the broad studies of his

*The Life of James Dwight Dana. By Daniel C. Gilman. New York: Harper & Brothers.

early years, his several books, and his more than two hundred scientific papers, demonstrate his claim to the title of naturalist, his precise and detailed work, particularly in the field of mineralogy, place him in the front rank of specialists even in these days of specialization.

Dana will probably be remembered longest because of his researches in mineralogy and geology, and in these two branches his text books stand as his greatest works. His book on "Corals and Coral Islands" and on the "Characteristics of Volcanoes" are more detailed works, and in a sense are probably of greater permanent value. Text books, it is true, must necessarily change from time to time, while detailed observations and records of fact are of continuing worth. The essentials, however, of Professor Dana's work on corals and volcanoes are included in his text books, and the greater comprehensiveness of the latter make them the greater works. It is, indeed, in the fact that his Geology includes the result of so much original work that its greatest permanent value lies. Text books must be to some extent compilations, but Dana's text books are based to an unusual degree upon personal observations and have contained in each new edition much original matter. He did original work of high and permanent value, and he chose to publish this in his texts. It was, however, as a teacher and interpreter that his greatest work was done. His power of accurate generalization and his firm grip on the philosophy of his subject were the elements which gave him the mastery. He came into the geological field after the fundamental question of methods was settled. Lyell's Principles had been published and accepted before he began his work. The Principles, however, while pointing the way to work, gave no suggestion of the evolution of the earth as a whole, and it was Dana's peculiar privilege to work out this idea. His text book, in which the American continent is taken as the type, keeps steadily in view the development of the earth toward a definite result. It is not a series of sketches of disjoined geologic periods.

It is interesting to remember the readiness with which Professor Dana gave up his personal methods or ideas whenever something better was offered. His system of crystallographic symbols, for example, worked out with care and really of high utility, was eventually abandoned for that of Miller. His devotion was to the science, not to his personal methods or ideas. Throughout his long and busy life of eighty-two years, there seems to have been no time for thought of self. It was all for his work.

Professor Dana was twenty years old when in 1833 he was graduated from Yale. His bent for scientific work was already pronounced, and his cruise through the Mediterranean in 1833–34 served to deepen his inclination. He was fortunate in being chosen, and the world of science proved fortunate in that he was chosen, a member of the Wilke's exploring expedition, which in the years 1838 to 1842 surveyed so much of the Pacific in the interest of knowledge. It is worth the climb to the upper alcoves of a library to find among the disregarded government publications the magnificent quartos in which Dana and his associates tell the story of this enterprise; one of which all Americans can well be proud. Equipped and maintained at government expense, the little fleet sailed over many miles of known and unknown seas, and in the work of exploration as well as in solid scientific results it amply repaid the cost. No member contributed more to the lasting credit of the work than did Dana, and no member received more personal benefit than did he. The wide experience in many regions and with many sorts of phenomena, coupled with the necessity for close systematic work along the lines assigned to him, gave him the knowledge and the poise which made possible his after work.

The chapters in which President Gilman tells the story of this expedition are not the least interesting in the book; and here, as elsewhere, he has wisely left the story to be told as much as might be in the words of Dana himself. As a result, the letters telling of the discovery of Bowditch Island (p. 126), and the ways of the Feejees half a century ago (p. 131), have all the interest of contemporary writing. The pictures of life in Hawaii, Samoa, Australia, and on the west coast of the United States, are particularly interesting in these days when the Pacific holds so much of interest to Americans.

Upon the return of the expedition Dana took up the work of studying and describing the specimens collected, and writing his three reports covering the geology of the region visited, the zoöphytes and the crustaceans. This work occupied most of his time from 1842 to 1856, but the reports are of the greatest value. In view of his great contributions to the sciences of geology and mineralogy, the fact of his studies in zoölogy are quite generally over-

looked. It is well to remember that in his reports upon the zoöphytes and crustaceans he not only had large and puzzling groups to deal with, but that he was almost entirely without the help of previous work. The classification which he worked out has been quite generally adopted, and the works were very substantial additions to the then sum total of zoölogical knowledge.

One of the interesting features of his work in the Pacific was his study of corals and coral islands. He worked out independently substantially the same theory of coral islands that is associated with Darwin's name, and which, with some modification, is the accepted theory of to-day. This work later gave rise to his book on Corals and Coral Islands.

In 1856 he assumed the duties of "Silliman Professor of Natural History" at Yale, and up to the time of his death he held this position. In 1859, and again in 1868, his health broke down and he temporarily gave up college work. In 1880 he was released from college duties, though up to the date of his death (in April, 1895) he continued to edit the "American Journal of Science," a work which he took up in 1848. This work, with his classes, the revision of his manuals, some field work and original investigations, took up the larger portion of his life. In the work he was brought into close contact with the leaders of scientific thought of both this country and Europe, and among the most interesting features of this biography are the pages given over to the letters which passed between Dana and Gray, Darwin, Agassiz, Guyot, Geikie, Brezelius, De Saussure, and others. These letters give one a side view of the development of many phases of scientific thought which can hardly be obtained from other sources.

In 1887, when at the age of seventy-four years, Professor Dana crossed the United States, travelled to Hawaii and return, and made careful studies of the Hawaiian volcanoes. These studies are particularly valuable in view of his wide acquaintance with volcanic phenomena beginning with an ascent of Vesuvius in 1834 and including visits to Stromboli, Milo, Maderia, and Cape Verdes (1838), Tahiti, Tutuila, Upolu, and New South Wales in 1839; the Feejees and the Hawaiis in 1840; the craters of Oregon and extinct volcanoes of California in 1841; and a second visit to Vesuvius in 1860. Professor Dana's acquaintance was equally wide with any subject upon which he undertook to write.

In the arrangement of the biography, President Gilman has followed the plan of presenting original documents, with just enough of personal explanation to allow the latter to be read understandingly. In his charming word-picture of New Haven in 1850 he has given a little sketch of wide and permanent usefulness.

Professor Dana's was a rich, full life,— a well rounded life of active work well done; and it is pleasant to state that President Gilman's book is a fitting recognition.

FOSTER BAIN.

IN CENTRAL ASIA.*

The heart of Asia has assumed new importance within the past quarter-century. Russian aggression has reached the borders of Afghanistan and British India, and is now simply biding an opportune time for further advances. These conquests have aroused diplomats and statesmen, best informed on the eastern question, to forecast the next possible move of the Muscovite power. Explorers, military men, and historians are likewise actively at work on some phase of this urgent question.

"The Heart of Asia" is the joint product of a diplomat formerly in the employ of the English government in India, and of a special student of Persia. The first part of the book is a rapid survey of the history of central Asia from the earliest times down to the Russian occupation. The author, Professor Ross, has laid under contribution the best works extant on these countries, including many Persian, Arabic, and Russian authorities hitherto inaccessible to persons unacquainted with those languages. He has also secured the coöperation of some of the best historical experts.

The territory whose history is brought in review is Turkestan, bounded on the north and east by the Sir Darya, on the south by Afghanistan and the Hindu Kush, and on the west by the Caspian Sea. A portion of this territory lying between the Oxus River and the Mountains of Paropanisus was called by the ancients Bactria. The first historical mention of this name is found in the Behistun inscription, dating from near the close of the

*THE HEART OF ASIA: A History of Russian Turkestan and the Central Asian Khanates from the Earliest Times. By Francis Henry Skrine and Edward Denison Ross, Ph.D. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co.

RUSSIA IN ASIA: A Record and a Study, 1558–1899. By Alexis Krausse. With twelve maps. New York: Henry Holt & Co.

sixth century B. C., where it is included in the list of satrapies of the Persian Empire of Darius I. Cyrus penetrated these regions as far as the Jaxartes River. Alexander the Great also reached the same limits and occupied over three years in the subjugation of the hostile and independence-loving peoples of this region. The history of Bactria, or Central Asia, henceforth has been almost one perpetual battle for life. It has been occupied in turn by Iranians, Greeks, Scythians, Chinese, Turks, and Russians. One of the most genius-like and powerful conquerors and rulers mentioned in the long list is that of Chingiz Khan. Of him Stanley Lane-Poole, as quoted by our author, says (p. 160):

"The Mongol armies, divided into several immense brigades, swept over Khwarazm, Khorasan, and Afghanistan, on the one hand; and on the other, over Azerbayjan, Georgia, and Southern Russia; whilst a third division continued the reduction of China. In the midst of these diverging streams of conquest Chingiz Khan died in A. H. 624 (1227), at the age of sixty-four. The territory he and his sons had conquered stretched from the Yellow Sea to the Euxine, and included lands and tribes wrung from the rule of the Chinese, Tanguts, Afghans, Persians, and Turks."

Thereafter the country was torn by civil war, a prey to the worst forms of tyranny, until delivered by that man of destiny, and great fame, "Lame Timur," whose biography and history have formed a basis for all European historians, including even Gibbon. The thirty-eight years' rule of this cultured prince were the golden age of central Asia. Successive centuries found no relief from the barbarity and tyranny of the foreign and native rulers of these regions until the intervention of Russia, and their final absorption into the Muscovite empire at different dates since 1860. Russia's last signal battle for the possession of central Asia was fought in 1881. In the author's description of the awful carnage he estimates the importance of the battle in these terms (p. 297):

"Geok Teppe was the last stronghold of Central Asian independence, and its capture must rank among the decisive battles of the world. While civilization gained by the Russian victory, it is impossible to refuse sympathy to those who were crushed by its giant forces. With the conquest of Turkomania a national entity disappeared forever which had been preserved intact during ages of change and retained many noble qualities. The world is the poorer by the disappearance of such types, and by the gradual reduction of all mankind to a dead level devoid of color and charm."

Of the benefits of Russian rule in these regions the author says:

"Slavery is another practice which has lost its terrors since the advent of the Russians. Bokhara was once the greatest market in Asia for the produce of Turkoman and Kirghiz raids. Eighty years ago 40,000 Persians and more than 500 subjects of the Tsar were detained there in bondage. There was a regular tariff for these human cattle. A labourer fetched £29, a skilled artisan £64, and a pretty girl nearly £100. The treatment meted out to them by Bokharan taskmasters was more atrocious than anything recorded by Mrs. Beecher Stowe."

The author's position is almost that of a Russophile. He sees the best side of Russian rule and diplomacy, and does not show a vigorous hand in pointing out her radical defects. In support of his view he gives in the appendices translations of two notable documents; the second was an address delivered at Askabad to a party of English tourists Nov. 25, 1897. In it we find this remarkable statement: "Our policy in Asia is essentially a peaceful one, and we are perfectly satisfied with our present boundaries." Events which have taken place on the Russian frontier since 1897, and are now in full progress in Persia and China, show that the position taken here regarding Russian policy and methods and results is especially roseate.

The growth of Asiatic Russia is one of the marvels of modern civilization. "Russia in Asia" is a comprehensive, yet concise, history of this expansion of Muscovite sway. The author has presented his conclusions as the result of investigation among the writings of more than two hundred authorities. In the description of military campaigns, he has made use of the original Russian documents. Discussions of the diplomatic methods of Russia and England are based on official correspondence of the two countries. The book is furnished with extensive appendices, which reproduce in English dress all the important treaties and conventions now in force respecting the Asiatic frontiers of Russia. A round dozen maps vivify the whole discussion.

The Russian Empire has extended, since the death of Ivan Basilovitz, in 1482, from 500,000 to over 9,000,000 square miles, reaching from the eastern limits of Sweden and Germany to the Pacific and from the Arctic Ocean to Afghanistan and Persia. Asiatic Russia to-day comprises a total of 6,564,778 square miles. This territory extends over 40 degrees of latitude, and across 173 degrees of longitude, and includes "every species of climate, soil, and people." The rapidity with which Russia has absorbed this territory may be conceived when it is said that by actual computation covering a period of 318 years, she has

annexed an annual average of 20,643 square miles. At the present time Russia owns more than one-third of the total area of Asia, but only one forty-second of the population, while China owns less than one-fourth of the area, but more than one-half of the population.

The history of the diplomatic methods employed, and an array of the reputed reasons given, for the acquisition of a large part of this domain, are a series of revelations to those who are accustomed to the national transactions of Western powers. The author appears to give us a true picture of each conquest, of each diplomatic manœuvre, on the basis of actual recorded statements.

After Russia has in one way or another secured possession of all this territory, what does she do for its betterment? The author, after studying the question from every side, comes to the following conclusion (p. 140):

"Russia in Asia is at present a purely military power. Her mission, as viewed by those responsible for her policy, is neither to develop territory nor to refine people. Her destiny is to use that which she already possesses as a means by which further conquests are to be made, until by dint of an ever forward movement, she finds herself in possession, not of India, or of China, or Persia, but of the whole Asiatic continent, which under the military sway of an army, ruled by the great White Tsar, may once again control the destinies of the world."

In carrying out her designs (p. 143),—

"Russia is restricted neither by considerations of the law of war, nor by any code of self-imposed morality. The ethics of Russian diplomacy are extremely simple. Diplomacy, being the means employed in the attainment of the ends most necessary to the future prospects of the State, is used without restriction of any kind. . . . Muscovite diplomacy is utterly unscrupulous, and pledges given or promises made are merely subterfuges, with the object of attaining something which is desired."

The author cites many examples of the execution of this policy within the last quarter century; most striking of these are the cases of the capture of Merv while a Russian ambassador was sent to London to assure England that no such plan was in mind; and the seizure of Port Arthur under guise of wintering a part of the Russian fleet in the shelter afforded by that harbor. The most efficient instrument in carrying out her designs is the army (p. 284):

"The life, the energy, and the intelligence of Russia are centred in her army, which, with certain exceptions, claims the service of every male within the age limit. . . . Each male spends eighteen years of his life in the standing army. . . . A diminution in the period of service is gained by attaining a certain standard of education; but as the opportunity of reaching this standard is not readily afforded, the proportion of the masses who benefit by the regulation is infinitesimal. The number of persons who can read throughout the Russian empire is under three per cent of the population, and the existing school accommodation caters for under two million pupils out of a total population of 129,000,000. And this state of things is likely to remain, for in the ignorance of its people lies the security of Russian bureaucracy."

The author's exposition of Russian policy, methods, and conditions is based on more than fifty pages of official documents, and the best authorities found in Muscovite literature. While unsparing in his criticism of Russia, he has no patience at all with the slow and changeable methods adopted by England to countercheck her advances. His book is a timely note of warning, and should open the eyes of the Western powers to the comprehensive designs, the resourceful methods, and the results certain to follow in the wake, of the Muscovite power.

IRA M. PRICE.

AN ENGLISH AND AN AMERICAN PLAY.*

There is enough movement in the English drama for us to say that life is still in it. It is true that here in America affairs are in no very hopeful state; true, also, that no great acting plays come to us from England. Still there are signs worth noting. One of these is the popularity of Mr. Stephen Phillips's play "Paola and Francesca": the literary gossips inform us that the play is to be acted, that Mr. Mansfield has ordered another like it, and so on. To the fact furnished by this play we may add the recent publication of "Osbern and Ursyne," by John Oliver Hobbes, of which we have similar advertisement: Mrs. Patrick Campbell is said to be reading it, and other important things are happening.

John Oliver Hobbes is not most widely known as a dramatist. It is now a year or so ago that we noticed "The Ambassador": the play was given in New York not long since, and was currently pronounced witty but undramatic. The present play was given semi-privately in New York, and was admitted to have technical excellence. But that particular point is not very important for the moment. When the play appears on the public stage it will be time to criticize it from the theatrical standpoint.

Of chief importance now (aside from the

* OSBERN AND URSYNE: A Drama in Three Acts. By John Oliver Hobbes. New York: John Lane.

NATHAN HALE: A Play in Four Acts. By Clyde Fitch. Illustrated. New York: R. H. Russell.

intrinsic interest in the play, which will be different for different people) is the fact that we have another example of the particular kind of romantic drama which now marks English literature. In Germany there is now a romantic drama which goes far toward allegory: "Die Versunkene Glocke," "Die Drei Reiherfedern," "Die Königskinder," — these are emphatically plays of ideas. In France there is something a little different: In "Cyrano de Bergerac" is a heroic romance which in spirit is still inspired by "Hernani." In England the drama is the romance of passion. Mr. Phillips's play, Mrs. Craigie's, Mr. John Davidson's "Godefrida," Michael Field's "Anna Ruina,"— these are of a type wholly different from the great French or German dramas. All mediæval tragedies, for one thing, all exploration of some tortuous by-way of passion, are marked by the atmosphere of the strange isolation of love. We take it that historically they belong to the school of Mr. Swinburne, who still lives in "Rosamunda." We think that the "Osbern and Ursyne" is most interesting in its significance. But there is good writing in it, too, and it would be worth reading even if there were no other dramas written in England.

The publication of Mr. Clyde Fitch's "Nathan Hale" is also worthy of notice. We do not incline to believe that we have here any addition to literature. But we need not suppose, because a thing is put in such form that the world may read it, that it is necessarily to be thought of as literature. Mural and other inscriptions form a matter of considerable interest, and may be worth the attention of anybody. So, also, a close study of advertisements in all their varied forms, is an extremely curious matter, and one which extends into vistas far beyond the imagination of the beginner. But neither inscriptions nor advertisements, valuable and fascinating as they are, can be called literature.

Mr. Fitch's play is of course a theatre play, and its publication is not a matter of literature but a matter of record. It is a record of a very interesting fact, namely, that the play was successfully written and acted, and it is now presented in a worthy manner. It is well printed and attractively bound, and illustrated with photographs of the original actors, both individually and in scenes. These pictures suggest a curious question,— all photographs of stage scenes and groups do,— namely, How can such stiff and awkward combinations ever have seemed natural? That they do seem natural — enough — on the stage, is a well-known fact. The pictures, however, are preëminently artificial; not these especially, but all such.

To some extent the same question is reëchoed on reading the text of this or many another successful acting play, How can this ever go smoothly, naturally, and with any show of reality? Perhaps the two questions together will suggest an answer: the stiffness of the stage setting and grouping is forgotten when we hear what the people say; the conventionality of what they say is relieved when we see them in their own persons and costumes. "Nathan Hale" is not a reading play, but many will like to have it for all that.

E. E. Hale, Jr.

Gardens and their Praises.*

While lovers of verse may wonder at the exclusion from Mr. Sieveking's "Gardens Ancient and Modern" of nearly all poetry bearing upon his delightful topic, lovers of gardens for their own sake will find in the really erudite collection of prose which he has gathered through a wide reading nearly all that they could wish or hope for. Yet he is not without a reason for omitting the rhymes all garden lovers treasure, when he says "in a garden everyone is his own poet," and this is a better reason than his plea "that poetry is richer in flowers than in gardens."

The work is an outgrowth of the former "The Praise of Gardens," now long out of print, but still prized by those fortunate enough to own it. It has now been enlarged, until its scope runs from the Nineteenth Dynasty of old Egypt to Mr. Alfred Austin, and from the Canticles to Mr. Charles Dudley Warner — justifying the "ancient and modern" of the title to the foot of the letter.

There are, too, an interesting Prologue, in which the various sources from which the reading matter and illustrations have been gleaned are set forth; the pictures themselves, which comprise copies of inscriptions from the monuments of Thebes, renaissance prints, and halftone reproductions of modern photographs;

*Gardens Ancient and Modern. By Albert Forbes Sieveking, F.S.A. New York: The Macmillan Co.

Home and Garden. By Gertrude Jekyll. New York: Longmans, Green, & Co.

Outside the Garden. By Helen Milman. New York: John Lane.

and an historical epilogue, wherein the story told brokenly in the selections is given original literary form, resulting in an essay of real value to the investigator. If old learning, quaint receipts, half remembered anecdotes of the great and wise in connection with gardens, and a charming style of his own can make a book delightful, Mr. Sieveking has won the palm.

Miss Jekyll's "Home and Garden" is a most inclusive work, and the breadth of scope permitted by its name is taken advantage of almost to the full. The pleasantly printed volume begins with the praise of the author's home, which is an English country house built with loving care and the almost perfect coöperation of the owner, architect, and builder. The owner is frank enough to admit that she would have been wiser if the architect had been followed a little more closely in his suggestion; though there is a proverb concerning the intellectual qualifications of those who build which is more inclusive and comes to the same thing.

From the interior of this charming house, built of timber and stone — which the proud owner had seen years before in forest and quarry — with honest and painstaking artisanship, it is an easy passage to the trees and flowers which make it beautiful without. Consequently, there ensue many chapters of delightfully empirical knowledge about the flora of that part of Britain, told discursively and with a fine irrelevance. From cats to cauliflower and pot-pourri to phlox may distract the imagination, but it results in just the sort of book one loves to read, with no thought of finishing the work forthwith or any feeling of compulsion or necessity.

Passing from the immediate realm of the garden itself, but returning to it from time to time as if loath to leave, "Outside the Garden" is the affectionate tribute of Helen Milman (Mrs. Caldwell Crofton) to the little land of Surrey where she has her home and shares her life with the living things, animal, vegetal, and human, of the neighborhood. It deals with hop-pickers, herons, cross-bills, literary men, men of science, mills, castles, abbeys, cottage gardens, felling trees, kings, queens, squirrels, sheep, nightingales, and Love, — all embodied in little essays which abound with the spirit of out-of-doors and the sense of being told because it was needful that the world should not forget the charm of nature.

All these books, published with care and consideration, leave little to be desired in respect of paper, pictures, printing, and binding, and are an unwitting tribute to the ineffable tiresomeness and folly of an age which makes life in the dull sordid town needful to existence when we might all of us get into the woods and dales, winter or summer, for a better knowledge of ourselves and a better feeling for those about us.

JOHN J. HOLDEN.

THE INSENSIBLE, IRRESISTIBLE DRIFT OF FAITH.*

The last half of the present century has shown a decisive change in the centre of gravity in men's religious opinions. The result is conspicuous in the insensible way in which conservative minds are drawn forward, and in the many checks by which radical ones are restrained. No man can write on religious themes at the close of the century as he would have written at its beginning. The attractions and repulsions are all different. The centre of revolution is far out in the light compared with those earlier years. This fact impresses one strongly in looking through a miscellaneous collection of fresh publications from the religious press. No man escapes.

The Gifford lectures, by Dr. Caird, are volumes of unusual interest. The biography which introduces them is well written, and the discussions which follow will especially please those who wish to accept the new faith with the least possible

* THE FUNDAMENTAL IDEAS OF CHRISTIANITY. By John Caird, D.D., LL.D. New York: The Macmillan Co.

CHRISTIAN MYSTICISM. Eight Lectures before the University of Oxford. By William Ralph Inge, M.A. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

THOUGHTS OF AND FOR THE INNER LIFE. Sermons. By Timothy Dwight. New York: Dodd, Mead & Co.

THE DIVINE PEDIGREE OF MAN. By Thomson Jay Hudson, LL.D. Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co.

THE VICTORY OF THE WILL. By Victor Charbonnel. Translated by Emily Whitney. Boston: Little, Brown, & Co.

THE MORAL ORDER OF THE WORLD. By Alexander Balmain Bruce, D.D. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

WHAT SHALL WE THINK OF CHRISTIANITY? By William Newton Clarke, D.D. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

CAN I BELIEVE IN GOD THE FATHER? By William Newton Clarke, D.D. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

SCIENCE AND FAITH. By Dr. Paul Topinard. Translated by Thomas J. McCormack. Chicago: The Open Court Co.

THE THEOLOGY OF CIVILIZATION. By Charles F. Dole. New York: Thomas Y. Crowell & Co.

ENEMIES AND EVIDENCES OF CHRISTIANITY. By John Duncan Quackenbos. New York: Eaton & Mains.

RELIGIO PICTORIS. By Helen Bigelow Merriman. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

LIFE BEYOND DEATH. By Minot Judson Savage, D.D. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons.

GOD'S EDUCATION OF MAN. By William DeWitt Hyde, Pres. of Bowdoin College. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

THE NEW EVANGELISM. By Henry Drummond. New York: Dodd, Mead & Co.

STONES ROLLED AWAY, and Other Addresses to Young Men. By Henry Drummond, F.K.S.E. New York: James Pott & Co.

change of the old. Principal Caird possessed a vigorous and earnest mind, and yet one loath to depart from beaten paths. The lectures on the fundamental truths of Christianity are more radical than they seem to be. The fire has touched the flax, and the mind is free, though the ashes remain, with, here and there, a few fibres unconsumed. The living evolution of truth is a controlling idea with the author.

"Christian Mysticism" is a rare book; rare in scholarship and rare in penetration — a book not to be expounded in a half dozen sentences. Mysticism, with the author, means that overplus of reason by which we forse a passage through sensuous impressions, and take possession of the truly intelligible world, the spiritual world, beyond. This he has discussed in its characteristics and chief forms. It is a book which many will pass negligently, a few contemptuously, and a more considerable few will receive enthusiastically. We give a few passages which may enable the lover of books to determine its quality in reference to himself. "Reason is the logic of the whole personality." "Whatever view of reality deepens our sense of the tremendous issues of life in the world wherein we move, is *for us* nearer the truth than any view which diminishes that sense." "Personality is not only the strictest unity of which we have any experience; it is the fact which creates the postulate of unity on which all philosophy is based." It is difficult for mysticism, even in its most sober expression, to escape the taint of ecstasy; and this difficulty the author does not entirely overcome.

"Thoughts of and for the Inner Life" is a volume of twenty discourses, most of which were preached in the chapel of Yale University. We are somewhat disappointed in them. As a matter of course, they are good, but they are not as superior as published sermons should be. The thought is moderately discriminating, the style is somewhat abstract and cold, and the discussion rarely melts into vivifying feeling. The personal presence of the speaker may have reduced these defects, but they leave the printed sermon somewhat in the shadow. The subdued tone of sympathy which the presence and character of the preacher may have accentuated is not perceptible to the reader.

"The Divine Pedigree of Man" is a clever book. It is clearly written, and gives some trenchant blows to Empirical Philosophy. The volume is a *reductio ad absurdum* of that phase of belief. Its own psychology, however, is of a mongrel order, and explains little or nothing. According to the author, man is possessed of two minds; one, perceptive and inductive, which is a function of the brain; another, intuitive and deductive, which is independent of the brain. This latter is present in the very earliest manifestations of life, and so antedates not only brain structure but all organic structure. Thus the doctrine that intelligence is the function of brain tissue disappears, and mind makes its way backward to the mind of God.

"The Victory of the Will" is a book of devotion, and good of its kind. It aims to awaken the spiritual powers to deeper insight and a better mastery of invisible things. Most readers would find stimulus in it. The symbol of this class of books is, man overleaping the world rather than man bearing it on his shoulders. The two should be merged in one.

"The Moral Order of the World" is a second course of Gifford Lectures. The first course — The Providential Order of the World — has already been noticed. The present volume is an historical and critical discussion of earlier and later beliefs concerning the moral government of God. The range of topics is broad. The discussion is perfectly clear and candid, and the criticisms are well directed and sober. Almost everyone could profit by its perusal.

"What Shall We Think of Christianity?" and "Can I believe in God the Father?" are composed of lectures; the first series delivered before the Johns Hopkins University, and the second before the Harvard Summer School of Theology. Their drift is sufficiently indicated by the titles. They are popular rather than philosophical, and their value is reduced by the fact that the treatment is rambling and fails to yield a clear and compact line of thought.

"Science and Faith" is a misnomer. The volume has little to do with science as a form of knowledge, and next to nothing to do with faith. It is a rendering of the facts, real and imaginary, by which man has grown into a personal, rational life, and become a member of society. Judging from a final remark, we have suffered no special loss by this diversion from the proposed theme. "The two domains of science and faith are totally different — are two contrary poles."

"The Theology of Civilization" is a discursive, popular treatise. It discusses religious beliefs in connection with our current life and experience. The book shows clear thought and a large heart. By virtue of robust common sense, it delivers some very square blows. While it does not aim to be philosophical, it does not lack philosophy.

One's first impression from the title of the book, "Enemies and Evidences of Christianity," is that of a disagreeable alliteration. Further acquaintance with the work, however, shows that the "enemies" were quite in the foreground of the author's conception, and not present by any rhetorical trick. Hinduism, Buddhism, Theosophy, Mrs. Eddy, Altruism, etc., are soundly belabored, the evidences being the convenient club with which it is done. The reason the author offers for this almost vicious attack, is the indignation which he calls righteous, experienced by him at the rhapsodies of meetings held in Maine — that no-man's-land in the summer months. He evidently attached too much importance to these unrestrained outbursts of the religious sentiments, and assails them in excessive wrath. It was a case in which the precept was in order, "Be not overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.'

"Religio Pictoris" is a noteworthy book, artistic in form, in purpose, and in treatment. The vitality and constructive elements in a picture are traced with delicate analysis, and are used as analogies interpreting to us that life picture which, in its motive, its lights and shades, makes up for us our religious faith. The work is executed with the same delicacy with which it is conceived. It leads us to the fundamental truth, that opposites, empirical and intuitional, in seeming contention, must be made to blend with each other in an ever more comprehensive and stimulating unity. We think, however, that the author has, in one or two instances, held too long to ideas, and striven to make them explanatory beyond their power. The pump handle has been vigorously applied when the piston has simply wheezed and yielded no water. For the most part it pours forth a clear and refreshing stream.

"Life Beyond Death" is a popular treatise, apparently shaped by service in the pulpit. The earlier portion is historical; the later portion is an interesting discussion of Spiritualism, and of the results of the Society of Psychical Research. Dr. Savage believes that Spiritualism and these researches establish the existence of spirits of the dead. We are quite content to accept a grave obligation to those men who have striven to clear up a threshing-floor of so much chaff and dust in search for the few grains of wheat it contains. The spirit is a true one and a wise one. We are also ready to accept any confirmation thus brought to the doctrine of immortality. We are not quite willing to regard it as a necessary or even important part of the proof. The doctrine rests on the force of our moral nature and of evolution. We believe it rests so securely as to be independent of these confused and doubtful phenomena. The mathematician does not feel the need of confirming his conclusions by empirical measurements. The appendix gives some very interesting personal experiences.

Those who regard the older beliefs in theology as the germs, and the later beliefs as the flowers, of one plant; who think that old things, in passing away, *become* new, will always be much interested in the works of President Hyde. He belongs with those who hold on to the past and the present with equal tenacity. The body of the volume, "God's Education of Man," is earnestly practical. The educational elements are three: law, grace, and service. They are traced in a vivid and cogent way. An introduction, and a briefer conclusion, raise the speculative inquiries by which the flow of religious faith is justified.

The two volumes of Drummond's addresses, "The New Evangelism" and "Stones Rolled Away," are quite diverse. The first is made up of discourses carefully prepared for set occasions, and of special articles. Both the thought and the style adequately present the author. Henry Drummond was a very apt product of our time. He was possessed in equal parts of the devotion of faith, of the comprehensive thought which comes from enlarged knowledge, and of sound sympathetic common sense. "The New Evangelism" is an excellent illustration of the first two elements, and "The Problem of Foreign Missions" of the third. The second volume is a reproduction of the extempore addresses made in this country. They give the simple, homely, direct, and earnest method which belonged to him in an immediate effort to influence young men. They are a single outcome of a theory of life, rather than that theory itself. They disclose the practical side of his character.

JOHN BASCOM.

BRIEFS ON NEW BOOKS.

John Brown of Ossawatomie.

One of the latest numbers of the "Beacon Biographies" (Small, Maynard & Co.) is a sketch of John Brown by Joseph Edgar Chamberlain. The book well merits attention, for the importance of the principles involved. The author tells us in his preface that his aim is to present a picture of the man, and to tell the story of his life, without inquiry into the effect of his work or estimate of his character. It strikes us that this omitted estimate is the very thing that readers of little books of this class most need. They are presumably busy people who, lacking time for larger books, want to find in a nutshell not only the story of a man's life but an estimate of his place in history as well. Mr. Chamberlain tells his story in the heroic vein, without qualification or extenuation. No book ought at this time to be written about Brown which does not clearly distinguish between his motive and his method. The singleness of his purpose and the pathos of his death will always make him a conspicuous figure; but it cannot be too strongly pointed out that his method was radically and terribly wrong, and that he hurt immeasurably the cause he hoped to help. That method may be tested by applying it to present day issues. It is the method of the assassin who shot Goebel, or of a fanatic who would destroy a venal legislature in the manner of Guy Fawkes, involving innocent and guilty in common ruin. The defense for Brown is that he had brooded over the evils of slavery until his narrow mind lost the distinction between right and wrong where slavery was concerned. It was the accident of the song that worked his apotheosis. Of the Cincinnati letter to Floyd, Mr. Chamberlain rather ambiguously remarks: "The identity of the man who sought to betray the secret is now pretty well known. It does not matter who it was." From this reference it appears that the author has missed the recent statement, which conclusively connects this letter with David J. Gee, who wrote it not to betray Brown but to save him from himself. The frontispiece portrait is from a photograph of a daguerreotype "supposed to have been taken in Kansas in 1856." Richard J. Hinton, who knew Brown well, tells us that the only picture Brown ever had taken

in Kansas is the one in which he appears seated at a table and grasping a staff or pike, that Brown never looked as badly as this picture represents him, and he denounces it as a pro-slavery fraud. Be that as it may, it hardly matches the pen picture of the book. One or the other needs correction.

Thackeray's anonymous contributions to "Punch."

Mr. M. H. Spielmann's researches among the archives of "Punch" have enabled him to positively identify as Thackeray's a number of writings that appeared anonymously in the laborious and painstaking columns of that serio-comic journal between 1843 and 1848. These writings, which range in length from an epigrammatic paragraph of a line or so to an article of a page or more, and from a couplet to a poem of one hundred and twenty-three lines, Mr. Spielmann now publishes in a comely volume under the perhaps unavoidably cumbrous title, "The Hitherto Unidentified Contributions of W. M. Thackeray to 'Punch'" (Harpers.) We may say at once that the book is unquestionably one which the lover of Thackeray and the collector of his works must have for the sake of its bibliographic and biographic interest. The literary quality of the papers, it is hardly necessary to say, is slight, and their humor has largely evaporated with the passing away of the interest of the more or less ephemeral political and other questions that inspired them. As an index to the writer's opinions on the questions and events of his day, they are of some value; but we can hardly agree with Mr. Spielmann that Thackeray, writing under the veil of anonymity, was likely to be more frank or bluntly outspoken than when he wrote over one of his familiar pen-names, or over his own signature. We find no indications of this additional frankness in the present volume, and this, for obvious reasons, we do not think altogether regrettable. There can be no question as to the authenticity of the pieces collected by Mr. Spielmann, since they are all entered as items against Thackeray's name in a long-forgotten editorial day-book, and duly checked off as paid for. The drawings which accompanied them, where they are unquestionably from Thackeray's hand, are reproduced, and add much to the humor and attractiveness of the book. Mr. Spielmann has judiciously supplemented the text with such comment and explanation of his own as seemed necessary to its full elucidation. A full and conveniently arranged bibliography of Thackeray's contributions to "Punch" is appended.

The "Temple" Shakespeare in a new form.

He is hard to please who cannot find an edition of Shakespeare to his liking. It would seem as if all the possible ideas and combinations of ideas in the mechanical presentation of the plays must have been exhausted long ago, and yet such are the fluctuations of taste and the caprices of bookish fashion that every year brings forth some new edition that seems to strike a responsive chord not struck before. The year just past, for example, has given us two editions that are in some respects more desirable for general reading than any that have preceded them. One of these, the "Eversley" edition, superintended by Professor C. H. Herford, has already received our praise, and for convenient handling and chaste simplicity would be difficult to surpass. Its ten volumes are a delight to the hand, the eye, and the scholarly sense. But if a more ornate edition be asked for, the new and larger "Temple" Shakespeare (Macmillan) seems to embody the *ne plus ultra* of charm and general attractiveness. This edition, under the care of Mr. Israel Gollancz, is to fill twelve volumes, of which eight are now before us. The mechanical features of this edition are a typography similar to that of the earlier "Temple" volumes, a combination of daintiness and elegance in many matters of detail, and a series of illustrations that greatly enhance its value. There are full-page frontispieces to each play, and a great variety of cuts scattered among the notes. The method of illustration is strictly realistic, and has been made possible by access to the rich collection of materials left by J. O. Halliwell-Phillipps. The order of the First Folio has been followed; "Pericles" will appear in the eleventh volume; and the twelfth will include, besides the Poems and Sonnets, an illustrated account of Shakespeare's life. Purchasers who acquire this charming edition will never have reason to regret their expenditure.

Life and work of Pope Leo XIII.

The celebration of the Pope's ninetieth birthday gives an added interest to the admirable biography, "Pope Leo XIII., his Life and Work" (Lippincott), by Julien de Narfon, recently translated by G. A. Raper. The pious and learned man who now occupies the papal throne has had a distinguished career, showing himself equal to every situation to which he has been called. Throughout almost the entire administration of his predecessor Pius IX., he was Bishop of Perugia; in 1853, he was made cardinal; in 1877 camerlengo, or chamberlain, of the papal household; in 1878, two weeks after the death of Pius IX., he was chosen pope. In all of these offices, he exhibited a rare combination of learning and administrative ability. He is an elegant Latin scholar, a poet of no small merit, a founder and patron of schools and colleges; and he has proved himself in addition an excellent man of affairs. In his character of supreme chief of the Roman Church, he has put himself in relation with the principal governments of the world, and in negotiations with Belgium, Spain, Germany, Russia, and other lands, has displayed admirable intelligence, patience, and tact. Throughout his entire pontificate, Church and State have been engaged in a quarrel mutually hurtful to Italy and the papacy. This so-called Roman question — that is to say, the respective positions of the Vatican and the Quirinal, and their relations to one another — is far from being a mere Italian affair. It demands the

attention of every foreign government that has any large Roman Catholic population subject to its rule. It has now reached a climax and a great crisis is imminent, not only in the fortunes of Italy, but in the history of the mother church. This book does much towards enlightening the reader concerning the complicated situation; but its great value is in introducing us to an intimate knowledge of perhaps the most interesting personality among living men. The large number of beautiful illustrations of notable places and persons adds greatly to the charm of the volume.

The moral and military strength of the Boer cause.

That only two books concerning the war between the little republics of South Africa on one hand, and England, Ireland, Scotland, Canada, Australia, Wales, and several other kingdoms, principalities, and colonies on the other, should be published in the United States within the last two months, may be taken to mean that recent British success is not regarded with any particular enthusiasm by American lovers of liberty and free institutions. That both of them should side energetically with the small against the great is to be expected from those who understand the ease with which the English-speaking peoples discern motes in the eyes of others, however regardless of beams within their own. "Who Ought to Win?" (Laird & Lee), by Mr. Spencer Randolph, is an energetic plea for the burghers, based on history in the past as well as policy in the future. It is not always carefully considered, and many extracts are used which might have been omitted to advantage, but it stands for the average American feeling in the matter with considerable accuracy. "The Transvaal Outlook" (Dodd, Mead & Co.), by Mr. Albert Stickney, is a military criticism from the point of view of an expert learned in the lessons of our own civil war, with strong leanings to the Republicans so far as history and justice is concerned, but rather designed with a view to pointing out the real strength of their position strategically considered. The work deals more particularly with the questions of transport and the length of the British lines, taken in connection with the proved mobility of the burghers' forces, and the possibility of repeating some of the deeds of Forrest, Wheeler, Sheridan, or Sherman.

Early history of the religion of Israel.

The lectures contained in Dr. Karl F. R. Budde's latest volume, "The Religion of Israel to the Exile" (Putnam), form the fourth series of "American Lectures on the History of Religions," and were delivered in the fall of 1898 by the well-known professor of Old Testament exegesis in Strassburg. A careful reading of the book confirms the impression received from hearing the lectures, that in them we have an invaluable exposition of the origin and early history of the Yahweh religion, which will do much to popularize the important results of modern Biblical criticism. Dr. Budde's point of view is that of a conservative; he belongs to the school which represents the reaction against the indiscriminate rejection of tradition as void of all historical value. While he recognizes the difference between tradition and history, he points out that "tradition in numberless cases clothes genuine history in forms which, at first sight, appear to deserve no confidence at all. The task of the true historian is, first of all, to understand the tradition. When it is correctly understood he will not throw it away, but will make use of it in the proper sense and in the proper place." From this point of view the Biblical tradition concerning the history of Israel as a nation appears to Professor Budde to be, in its main features, trustworthy. He has endeavored to present the results of Old Testament scholarship not from the negative side, "but as a thoroughly positive work of preserving, restoring, building up." He has succeeded in giving us a clear, consecutive, and eminently satisfactory view of the subject. One regrets that the Index is not fuller.

Naval battles from Salamis to Santiago.

No better subject ever lay ready for the historian's hand than that taken up by Mr. Edward Kirk Rawson in his "Twenty Famous Naval Battles: Salamis to Santiago" (Crowell). Himself a professor in the United States Navy and superintendent of the Naval War Records, Mr. Rawson had the admirable example of Creasy's "Fifteen Decisive Battles of the World" on which to model his own work. Moreover, his two octavo volumes, from introduction to ending, show a profound knowledge of the problems involved and great naval erudition such as must serve to give it permanent value as a book of reference. The battles selected are hardly to be quarreled with, though Yalu or Wei-hai-Wei might have been mentioned. The inclusion of the Bon Homme Richard-Serapis, Constitution-Guerrière, Monitor-Merrimac, and Kearsage-Alabama duels, in addition to detailed accounts of the battles of Lake Erie, Mobile Bay, Manila, and Santiago, give the book perhaps a too pronounced American flavor. And no Englishman could be expended to lend his approval to omission of the battle of the Baltic or St. Vincent from the list. But what injures the book more than anything else is the author's absence of imagination, leaving his histories, for all the vividness of action inherent in them, almost wholly without the quality of picturesqueness. What should have been a work to be read and re-read, becomes, in consequence, one rather to be relegated to the book-shelves for consultation as an authority upon occasions of formal historical reference.

Twelve famous English sea-fighters.

Among the books which take high place for reading and instruction, Mr. J. Knox Laughton's "From Howard to Nelson" (Lippincott) is henceforth destined to rank. Battles are alluring reading, naval wars are always to be given precedence among these, and the steps whereby Great Britain gave herself the proud position of mistress of the seas

are fascinating in the telling; everything respecting the book, therefore, makes it of unusual interest. Mr. Laughton, whose services for the naval histories and biographies in the "Dictionary of National Biography" are still remembered, has been the editor here, giving a series of twelve "lives" of as many sea-fighters a unity of treatment and design impossible without such assistance. The biographies themselves are from various hands, among whom are Admiral Sir Edmund R. Freemantle, Admiral Sir R. Vesey Hamilton, Vice-Admiral Sir Frederick G. D. Bedford, Vice-Admiral Philip H. Colomb, and Captain Montagu Burrows, all the contributors being high in the Royal Navy with the exception of the editor himself, who writes of Howard —"my Lord Howard" of Tennyson's "Revenge." Nothing in the way of original treatment is attempted, and the absence of technicalities is marked. There is always to be noted the perfect comprehension and eager sympathy which adds so much to the value of such collections as this, while the reputation of nineteenth century sailors for writing terse and vigorous English is fully sustained throughout. As a history or romance or both combined, the book is worth reading, even by those who know their Southey by heart.

Collected works of a minor English poet.

The loyalty with which the English stand by their lesser poets is placed in abrupt contrast with the American air of disdainful superiority concerning theirs, by the recent publication, under the editorship of Mr. Alfred Wallis, of "The Poetical Works" of the Rev. Robert Stephen Hawker, M.A. (John Lane). Hawker is chiefly known to this generation as the writer of the "Song of the Western Men," containing the famous stanza,

> "And have they fix'd the where and when?
> And shall Trelawney die?
> Here 's twenty thousand Cornish men
> Will see the reason why!"

which was taken by Macaulay as contemporaneous with the imprisonment of Sir John Trelawney in 1688, and subsequently became the subject of an animated discussion. Contrary to the usual impression that Hawker availed himself of an old refrain, the editor here contends sturdily for the complete originality of the poem, chorus and all. Though none of the poet's verses were included in "The Golden Treasury" of Palgrave, he had a wide popularity in his day and his poems are of great interest. During his lifetime, 1803–1875, he published thirteen volumes of verse, many of which passed through more than one edition.

More hints for women.

It is certainly not for lack of instruction, definite and indefinite, that any woman fails to recognize the niche she was intended to fill. But instructions cannot undo the facts contained in lack of a training so thorough, so well rounded, that a woman, no less than a man, can face any emergency that arises, confident that a living income can be had by the work of hands or head. The growing thought among progressive educators makes manual training, on both the art and the mechanical side, the foundation of all education. In such training the natural bent of the child becomes plainly discernible, and this forever ends that familiar condition known as the "square peg in a round hole." Mrs. Helen Candee Churchill is known as a graceful, and, on the whole, sensible, writer for women, and her little volume "How Women May Earn a Living," lately issued by the Macmillan Company, is fairly practical, and certainly pleasant reading. Perhaps nothing better could be said to the untrained and rather helpless woman thrown suddenly on her own resources. But the need of such a book in itself emphasizes that other need — the demands for an education that shall develop to its utmost capacity every power latent in the child. When this need is recognized, the day of handbooks for the helpless or half competent will end, and the library shelf, that now holds a series of this order, be cleared for something more in accord with life as it should be, and, as it is dawning upon us, we have power to make it.

A manual of the British House of Commons.

A brief manual for the use of those who may desire to acquire an elementary idea of the British House of Commons of the present time has been prepared by Sir Richard Temple, whose knowledge of his theme has been derived from his experience as a Member during the eventful decade, 1885 to 1895 (A. Wessels Co.). The author has not attempted to recount the parliamentary history of that period, nor to discuss the merits of its great issue, the Irish Question. His object has been to indicate broadly the ways and character of the House as at that time constituted, as they might have appeared to an impartial observer. The text is divided into nine chapters, each dealing concisely and clearly with a special phase of the subject. The first is introductory, and describes the *personnel* of the House of 1885, and of each of the subsequent elections during the decade treated. Thence, the author proceeds to discuss The House of Commons as a Club, The Precincts and Buildings, Life in Parliament, Manners and Customs, Scenes in the House, Leading Figures, The Irish Nationalist Party, The Lords as Seen by the Commons. American readers will find in Sir Richard Temple's little handbook just the modicum of general information as to the modern House of Commons that everyone ought to have, and it is pleasantly imparted.

Makers of Nova Scotia.

We Americans have an historical interest in Nova Scotia surpassing that of most of the other British provinces at the north of us. The Thirteen Colonies sent into the province in 1760–61 a large emigration called the pre-loyalists, and a much larger one of loyalists, at the close of the Revolutionary War. More than any other elements of the population, perhaps, these two emigrations gave charac-

ter to Nova Scotia. At one time it might almost be called a New England colony; thus, in January, 1767, the Americans were 6.913 of the total population, which counted 13,394. Sir John G. Bourinot, the veteran Canadian historian, gives in his "Builders of Nova Scotia" (Toronto: The Copp-Clark Co.) a compendious but luminous and interesting view of his subject. To the builders proper, who are treated under the heads, "Origin of the People of Nova Scotia," and "Establishment of the Great Churches," Parts I. and II., there is added a third part, which must give especial interest and value to the book in the case of the Nova Scotians. This division of the volume is entitled "Reminiscences of Eminent Nova Scotians for over Forty Years." One-half of the volume, which embraces about two hundred pages, is filled with valuable historical documents.

BRIEFER MENTION.

"The Soul of Man," by Dr. Paul Carus, is essentially a treatise upon the anatomy and physiology of the brain, although it is supplemented by certain chapters of a more strictly psychological character. The work had a well-deserved success when first published, several years ago, and a second edition now appears, this time in paper, as the January number of "The Religion of Science Library." It comes to us from the Open Court Publishing Co.

"Le Morte Darthur" of Sir Thomas Malory forms two volumes in the handsome "Library of English Classics" recently begun by the Macmillan Co. Mr. A. W. Pollard is the editor, and supplies a bibliographical note from which we learn that he has followed the Caxton text as reprinted by Sommer. The editor speaks of various conjectures concerning the personality of Malory, but does not seem to have been acquainted with the evidence adduced by Dr. G. L. Kittredge, which goes far toward settling this long-disputed question.

Huxley's "Lessons in Elementary Physiology," published in various editions, from 1866 to 1885, under the author's supervision, has recently undergone an extensive revision at the hands of Drs. Michael Foster and Sheridan Lea. This revision is the basis of the volume now published by Dr. Frederic S. Lee (Macmillan), who has, however, made such alterations as were needed to fit the work for the use of American students.

Two contributions to the rapidly growing library of Omar literature have been upon our table for some weeks. One is the "Ruba'yat of Omar Khayam" (Lane), translated by Mrs. H. M. Cadell, and prefaced by a memoir of the translator, written by Dr. Garnett. Mrs. Cadell (1844–1884) was a student of Persian, and her hundred and fifty quatrains are close reproductions of the original, although as poetry no one would think of comparing them with the paraphrase of FitzGerald. "One Hundred Quatrains from the Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam," published by the Brothers of the Book, is a translation by Miss Elizabeth Alden Curtis, and is introduced by Dr. Richard Burton. We are not informed as to whether the translator has worked from the original or from other translations.

NOTES.

The authorized edition of Mr. Kipling's ballad of "The Absent-Minded Beggar" is published by Messrs. Brentano's in a handsomely-printed booklet.

"King John" is the latest volume of the charming "Chiswick" Shakespeare with illustrations by Mr. Byam Shaw, of which the Macmillan Co. are the American publishers.

The American copyright of M. Rostand's new play, "L'Aiglon," has been secured by Mr. R. H. Russell, who will issue the work simultaneously with its publication in England and Paris.

A sensible little essay on "How to Tell a Good Picture," written by Mr. Charles H. Caffin, art critic of "Harper's Weekly," is published in pamphlet form by Messrs. Curtis & Cameron, of Boston.

A second edition of Mr. Edmund G. Gardner's "Dante's Ten Heavens" has just been imported by Messrs. Charles Scribner's Sons. The work has been revised in numerous minute particulars.

The military articles by Mr. Spencer Wilkinson, which have attracted much attention in the columns of the London "Post," will be issued shortly in book form by Messrs. Dodd, Mead & Co., under the title "War and Policy."

M. Henri de Régnier will give four lectures in Chicago, April 9–12, under the auspices of the University of Chicago. They will be given alternately at the Art Institute and the University, at 4:30 P. M., and will be free to the public. Contemporary French poetry will be the general theme of the lectures, two of them being special studies of Verlaine and Mallarmé.

Two editions of "The Professor," by Charlotte Brontë, come to us simultaneously. One is the "Haworth" edition (Harper), with the customary introduction by Mrs. Humphry Ward, and the attractive illustrations. This volume contains also the poems of the Brontë sisters, as well as the "Cottage Poems" of their father. The other is the "Thornton" edition (imported by Scribner), containing the titular novel alone, and is without illustrations, save for the frontispiece.

The death, March 21, of Henry Cohn, Assistant Professor of German in Northwestern University, has removed one of the most active mediators between German and Anglo-American life, as well as a teacher of remarkable gifts and enthusiasm. He was born in Berlin on February 2, 1847, came to America as a child, and was educated at Columbia College in New York. After graduation he taught German in the School of Mines of the same institution. From 1871 to 1873 he attended the University of Berlin, studying Germanics, orientalia, history, and philosophy. In 1875 he founded a private school of languages in New York; then conducted summer-schools in various parts of the country; and after maintaining a school of languages in Chicago, became connected with Northwestern University in 1893. In addition to the regular duties of his profession, which were performed with remarkable vigor, he founded societies for encouraging general interest in the German language; and from time to time he secured the presence of distinguished German talent in Evanston. For a number of years he had charge of the summer school of German at Chautauqua.

On March 22 the old and honored house of D. Appleton & Co. passed into the hands of a receiver, the result of the inability of the firm to secure extensions on notes

falling due on that date. The failure was indirectly precipitated by the recent misfortunes of the Harper house, and was not in any way due to financial losses or bad judgment in business risks. The lenders of money holding paper issued by the Appletons, frightened by the recent revelations at the Harper establishment, were unwilling to grant favors to the publishing house, and the firm promptly laid the situation before its heaviest creditors and decided on the application for a receiver as the best protection for all concerned. The liabilities amount to something over a million dollars, but the assets are large, and of such a character that it is believed all claims will be paid in full. The receiver is Mr. J. Hampden Dougherty, a lawyer of high standing who has had intimate knowledge of the firm's affairs for some years, and he will continue the business until plans for a re-organization can be formulated. The present reverses of the house will cause universal regret and sympathy, and it is to be hoped that a re-organization may soon be accomplished that will put the firm in position for continuing on a more effective basis than before.

Topics in Leading Periodicals.

April, 1900.

Badajos, Storming of. Stephen Crane. *Lippincott.*
Browning in Asolo. Katherine C. Bronson. *Century.*
Campaign, The Coming Political. H. L. Nelson. *Atlantic.*
Canals from Great Lakes to Sea. *Forum.*
Cape Nome Gold District. Angelo Heilprin. *Pop. Science.*
Chemistry, Advance of. F. A. Clarke. *Popular Science.*
Chesterfield, A Comic. John Buchan. *Atlantic.*
Chinese World, Greatest Wonder in. E. R. Seidmore. *Century.*
College Girl and Outside World. Sophia Kirk. *Lippincott.*
College President, Perplexities of a. *Atlantic.*
Commercial Education, Advanced, Need for. *Forum.*
Constitution and the Territories. H. P. Judson. *Rev. of Rev.*
Consular Service of the U. S. G. F. Parker. *Atlantic.*
Egypt, Out-of-the-Way Places in. R. T. Kelly. *Century.*
Egyptian Exploration, Recent. W. M. F. Petrie. *Pop Sci.*
Europe, Things We May Learn from. S. J. Barrows. *Forum.*
Financial Law, The New. Frank A. Vanderlip. *Forum.*
French, The Sculptor. William A. Coffin. *Century.*
Government Telegraph in Great Britain, Success of. *Century.*
Hampton, "Learning by Doing" at. *Review of Reviews.*
Hay-Pauncefote Treaty, The. J. G. Whiteley. *Forum.*
Home Gardening, Hints on. Eben E. Rexford. *Lippincott.*
Japan's New Era. R. van Bergen. *Review of Reviews.*
Kangaroo Rat, The. Ernest Seton-Thompson. *Scribner.*
Kentuckian, The. John G. Speed. *Century.*
Literature as a Profession. Brander Matthews. *Forum.*
Louis XIII., Childhood of. Lucy Crump. *Atlantic.*
Magersfontein. H. J. Whigham. *Scribner.*
Marmosets. Justine Ingersoll. *Century.*
Napoleon, Talks with. Barry E. O'Meara. *Century.*
Naval Needs, Immediate. W. H. Jaques. *Forum.*
Paris, Fashionable. Richard Whiteing. *Century.*
Paris, The Charm of. Ida M. Tarbell. *Scribner.*
Power-Tool, Industrial Revolution of the. *Century.*
Puerto Rican Relief Bill. Albert J. Hopkins. *Forum.*
Rhine-Elbe Canal. J. H. Gore. *Review of Reviews.*
Ruskin, John. W. C. Brownell. *Scribner.*
Russia's Lien on Persia. Truxton Beale. *Forum.*
Science, Superstructure of. W. J. McGee. *Forum.*
Steam Turbine Engine, The. C. A. Parsons. *Pop. Science.*
Steel-Makers of Pittsburg, The Great. *Review of Reviews.*
Trusts, Four Books on. John R. Commons. *Rev. of Rev.*
Trusts, Remedy for Evils of. J. W. Jenks. *Rev. of Rev.*
Tuberculosis Quarantine not Practicable. W. P. Munn. *Forum.*
Valdés, Armando Palacio. Sylvester Baxter. *Atlantic.*
X Rays, Latest Developments with. *Popular Science.*
Yosemite Park, Forests of. John Muir. *Atlantic.*

List of New Books.

[*The following list, containing 110 titles, includes books received by* The Dial *since its last issue.*]

BIOGRAPHY AND MEMOIRS.

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